

Strayer Nelson of Ilion, New York, who turns 100 years old today.

Mr. Nelson is one of the last living survivors of the attack on Pearl Harbor. He joined the Navy right out of high school and was assigned to the USS *Wasmuth*, a Clemson-class destroyer that was docked in Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. He left the Navy as a first class electrician's mate.

On that fateful day 80 years ago, 19-year-old Thomas Strayer Nelson was lying in his bunk aboard the ship docked in Pearl Harbor when the alarms sounded. Sensing trouble, Tom made it topside where he saw several Japanese planes bombing American ships. He quickly assessed that this was not a drill.

Tom quickly jumped on his .50 caliber machine gun and successfully helped defend the *Wasmuth* and its crew on that fateful day.

The wreckage was devastating. Nearly 20 U.S. ships were damaged or sank at sea, and more than 2,400 Americans, including civilians, were killed.

Tom remembers crying that day during the aftermath, but Tom's heroism did not stop there. Nearly 1 year later, in December 1942, the *Wasmuth* was escorting a convoy when it was knocked off its tracks and two mines exploded below the ship. The *Wasmuth* sank, but 134 crew, including Tom, were rescued due in large part to Tom's efforts.

Tom came back home and was an electrical inspector for over 27 years in his hometown of Ilion, New York, where he has resided for nearly his entire life. I had the great honor of meeting Tom this past weekend. At the age of 99, now 100 today, he was full of life and very engaging, and he also had a wonderful sense of humor. I also had the pleasure of meeting his daughter, Janice, with whom he has been living the past 2 years and who provides great care for him, and his son, John, who is also providing loving care to Tom. John is a former State trooper who has now taken on the mantle of also being an electrician in his father's legacy.

□ 1115

I just want to say also about the wonderful family from this small community, Tom's late wife, Gladys Cooley, passed away in 2015. He also had a daughter who passed away and a son, Tom, who died very young from rheumatoid arthritis.

I just wanted to take this special time to recognize and thank someone who is part of our Greatest Generation from my community, one of the last survivors of Pearl Harbor who actually was there when this occurred. I want to thank his family and everyone for hosting me, greeting me, and giving me the real unique opportunity to meet with this great hero of our country.

I want to say thank you again to Tom for his heroism, his service, and his bravery. I wish him another 100 years of good health and good cheer. I look forward to seeing him again when I return to my hometown.

Here's to many years ahead.

ENERGY CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CLINE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, our Nation is facing avoidable crises on many fronts. Because of President Biden's and the Democrats' failed leadership, Americans are dealing with a border crisis, an inflation crisis, a spreading crime crisis, and a crisis in Afghanistan. And now, with the national average for a gallon of gas hitting \$3.30 last week—a 7-year high—we are also facing an energy crisis.

Let me be clear: the responsibility for this crisis belongs at the feet of none other than President Joe Biden. His anti-energy agenda has destroyed American jobs and ended America's energy independence. On his first day in office, the President killed 11,000 jobs by canceling the Keystone pipeline, and one of his first executive orders paused new oil and gas leasing on U.S. lands and waters. That executive order alone will cost approximately 1 million American jobs in the near term and will decrease U.S. gross domestic product by \$700 billion.

That same order also puts America's energy security at risk. To make up for slowed production in the United States, U.S. imports from foreign sources will increase by 2 million barrels a day, and through 2030 we would spend \$500 billion more on energy from foreign suppliers. Instead of making it easier for American companies to increase American oil and gas production and hire more U.S. workers, President Biden begged OPEC and Russia to increase global output to ease rising prices.

It is a shame. The President has made us more reliant on dangerous adversaries overseas rather than maintaining policies that had us on the verge of energy independence.

It would be great if Joe Biden would reverse course and turn, once again, to an all-of-the-above American energy solution that ensures we are reliant on no one but ourselves; but, instead, I guess we are just going to have to lower our expectations.

A CRUEL CHOICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, forcing the Federal Government into Americans' private lives is Joe Biden's twisted idea of unity. It is sickening to me that this President is creating a situation where some Americans need to pick between keeping their jobs or taking the coronavirus vaccine.

This is a cruel way to treat Americans trying to earn a living. Even worse, Biden's vaccine mandate applies to brave military soldiers willing to die

for us, Federal contractors, and the intelligence community. If too many are forced out of their positions, it will jeopardize America's ability to assess and address threats.

Mr. Speaker, you do not need to look very hard for possible consequences.

Over the weekend, our government's top intelligence personnel were caught off guard by the People's Liberation Army's test of a hypersonic missile capable of traveling at 25,000 miles per hour. Imagine that missile flying toward the homeland and important government or military roles were vacant because folks were fired over the vaccine.

Mr. Speaker, the result would be catastrophic.

Biden needs to back off his tyrannical impulses and allow Americans to decide for themselves on the coronavirus vaccine. If he doesn't, talented folks are going to exit critical national security jobs, and this clueless President will blunder his way into yet another crisis.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 19 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Holy God, Heaven and Earth are held in Your hand. You who have determined the number of stars and given each their name, You who have set the Pleiades and Orion in the sky, You are our North Star, the constant in this changing universe, and we look to You for direction.

Cast our eyes upon Your brightness, that we would discover the immutability of Your character and revive our strength. In a world full of variables, may Your unchanging nature ever be our guard and stay.

When there is no one on whom we can rely, may we rely on You.

When there is nothing we can trust, may we trust You.

When we are lost, adrift in the sea of confusion, may we anchor ourselves in You.

And when we are fearful for our lives or livelihood, may You be our source of courage and purpose.

These are not lofty desires, O God, but pure, unvarnished, and honest needs that we lay before You.

You, O Lord, do not change. You are the same yesterday, today, and forever. Your word is alive and enduring. In this may we find hope.

In Your strong and eternal name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Oklahoma (Mrs. BICE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

IT IS TIME TO ACT FOR ALS

(Mr. QUIGLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in unity with Americans suffering from ALS and their families, who are desperate for effective treatments and, one day, a cure.

I made it my mission to pass the ACT for ALS Act because people with ALS deserve a chance to fight the disease. They deserve a research and development infrastructure that is compassionate today while looking to the future.

My friend, Brian Wallach, who was diagnosed with ALS 4 years ago, told Congress that this fight is the closing argument for his life. I can't look him in the eye and tell him we have to wait. None of us should.

I am profoundly grateful to each and every one of the 325 cosponsors of this bill, as are families impacted by ALS all around the country. This is the most cosponsors of any bill that has not yet gotten a vote in this Congress.

It is time for us to act. It is time to act for ALS.

AMERICA HAS SERIOUS FISCAL PROBLEMS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the September 21 Post and Courier of Charleston, South Carolina, editorialized an analysis of the irresponsible Biden tax-and-borrow schemes destroying jobs.

What would you call a neighbor who spent lavishly to redecorate his house but ignored the badly leaking roof? Perhaps foolish, irrational, or just plain dumb.

Now, what would you call a Congress seemingly bent on enacting costly new middle-class entitlements while existing programs are headed for devastating benefit cuts? Some of those same words come to mind.

At the end of August, the Treasury Department issued the annual reports of the trustees for Social Security and Medicare that showed these trust fund programs are on schedule to run out of money.

There are very serious fiscal problems, but Congress instead is focusing on legislation to expand entitlements, hurting their children in the long run while millions of our elderly could be thrown into poverty.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, who successfully protected America for 20 years as the global war on terrorism continues moving from Afghanistan to America. Our sympathy to the family of General Colin Powell.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF KEVIN HAYS

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Kevin Hays.

Kevin was diagnosed with colorectal cancer at the age of 28. He fought a 7-year battle against it that was courageous and inspiring. He made it his mission to raise awareness about the second leading cause of cancer deaths in America.

Kevin founded the Colon Corps, led the Blue Hope Hard Hat Initiative, and got involved with the American Cancer Society and the National Colorectal Cancer Alliance to promote early detection and screening.

Kevin was a gifted, nationally recognized messenger, charismatic and kind, with a mischievous smile and a great sense of humor.

To his beloved wife, Hilary, and his beautiful family and loved ones, cherish your memories of Kevin and know that there will always be light to guide you from the love he gave you.

I stand here today to recognize the many lives saved thanks to the advocacy of Kevin Hays and to carry his message of love and encouraging colon cancer screening forward.

DEMOCRATS' RADICAL AND COSTLY POLICIES

(Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, President Biden and Democrats are pushing to pass a multitrillion-dollar socialist spending agenda that would

be the largest tax-and-spending increase in our Nation's history. It is, frankly, money we don't have.

At a time when families and businesses are struggling to deal with President Biden's reckless economic policies, the Democrats are pushing to spend trillions more dollars to fund their radical, socialistic, and costly policies.

Just a few of the Democrats' far-left socialist policies will hit small business with a larger tax bill, impose costly Green New Deal mandates that simply won't work, increase our energy dependency on Russia and China, weaponize the IRS to target American families and monitor \$600 per week bank transactions.

I will continue to stand against the Democrats' socialistic tax-and-spend spree that will limit our freedoms, make our country less competitive, and destroy Main Street America. Their agenda is anti-American.

In God we trust.

FUNDING ELECTRIC VEHICLES

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, we have a choice. We can work to save our planet and become a global leader in green technology, or we can allow our planet to become uninhabitable. We must choose to protect our planet, the only home we have.

Transitioning to electric vehicles will dramatically reduce carbon emissions and will create a cleaner world for our children. That is why my committee approved billions of dollars to transition the Postal Service and GSA fleets to electric vehicles and provide the necessary charging infrastructure across the country in the postal offices.

This will fund more than 300,000 electric vehicles. That is more electric vehicles than were sold across the entire country last year.

I urge my colleagues to support the Build Back Better plan, which includes funding for electric vehicles that will greatly help our environment.

MY CONSTITUENTS MISS PRESIDENT TRUMP

(Mrs. MILLER of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, Americans miss President Donald Trump.

Under the Biden administration, we have a supply chain crisis, an energy crisis, a border crisis, an Afghanistan crisis, and an economic crisis that threatens every bank account and paycheck that we earn.

Americans are scared and losing hope after 9 months of the Biden-Harris administration.

Under President Trump, we had a roaring economy; we had energy independence; our border was secure; and our enemies feared our resolve.